

Message Text

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USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OECD, EGEN
SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION:
TEXT OF ANNOTATED AGENDA

REF: OECD PARIS 27691

THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF ANNOTATIONS TO THE AGENDA
FOR THE XCSS OF OCTOBER 4, 1977 (DOCUMENT CE/A(77)13
(PROV.) (1ST REVISION) ANNEX)

BEGIN TEXT:

ITEM 2 - ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

(A) REVIEW OF THE GENERAL SITUATION, PARTICULARLY THE
31ST RESUMED SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

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1. WITH THE CONCLUSION OF THE CIEC, THE CATALYTIC
EFFECT OF THE CONFERENCE ON THE CO-ORDINATION OF THE
DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TOWARDS THEIR RELATIONS WITH THE
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES HAS BEEN REMOVED. THE COMMITTEE
WILL WISH TO EXAMINE HOW THE CLOSE CO-OPERATION AND CO-
ORDINATION WHICH EXISTED DURING THE CIEC MIGHT BE
MAINTAINED IN THE POST-CIEC PERIOD. THE MEANS OF

ACHIEVING THIS CO-ORDINATION MIGHT ALSO BE DISCUSSED, BEARING IN MIND THE SPECIAL ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION AND IN PARTICULAR ITS MANDATE TO CONSIDER THE GLOBAL APPROACH TO INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS.

2. THE COMMITTEE WILL WISH TO CONSIDER THE LONGER-TERM VIEW OF THE PROBLEMS UNDERLYING THE DIALOGUE AND TO CONSIDER HOW TO HANDLE THE RESULTS OF THE CIEC. THEY WILL ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER THE IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESUMED 31ST SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS IN THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM AND ELSEWHERE. THE OUTCOME OF THE RESUMED 31ST SESSION WAS INCONCLUSIVE, PARTICULARLY INsofar AS IT FAILED TO REACH AGREED WORDING TO ASSESS THE RESULTS OF THE CIEC. THEY WILL ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT MEETING OF THE IMF/IBRD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

(B) PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSIONS.

3. THERE WILL BE MANY MEETINGS OVER THE NEXT SIX MONTHS OR SO BOTH IN THE UNITED NATIONS AND ELSEWHERE THAT WILL SERVE TO PROMOTE THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE. THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WILL WISH TO MAKE USE OF THESE MEETINGS TO PURSUE THEIR OBJECTIVES IN THE DIALOGUE IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A POSITIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE CREDIBILITY OF THE VARIOUS UNDERTAKINGS ENTERED INTO AT THE CIEC AND ELSEWHERE. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS MEETING, HOWEVER, THE COMMITTEE MIGHT THINK IT APPROPRIATE TO CONCENTRATE ON THE MAJOR PROBLEMS WHICH, IN THE SHORT TERM, ARE LIKELY TO BE RAISED IN A NUMBER OF FORA, INCLUDING THE 32ND SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNCTAD NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMMON FUND, THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, THE IMF/IBRD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE, AND THE GATT/MTN'S.

4. IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THE MAJOR POLITICAL DISCUSSION AT THE 32ND SESSION WILL TAKE PLACE DURING ITS SECOND HALF, WHICH WILL ALLOW THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO TAKE STOCK OF THE UNCTAD NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMMON FUND IN NOVEMBER. THE COINCIDENCE OF THESE TWO FACTORS WILL REQUIRE CAREFUL TACTICAL HANDLING.

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5. THE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE GLOBAL DIALOGUE
IS NOT YET CLEAR. DOES THE COMMITTEE CONSIDER THAT THE
DIALOGUE WOULD BE BEST SERVED BY:

(A) GENERAL DISCUSSION IN A CENTRAL, GLOBAL
FORUM, OR

(B) SPECIALISED DISCUSSION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES IN
MORE LIMITED FORA, OR

(C) A COMBINATION OF (A) AND (B)?

THE DRAFT RESOLUTION TABLED IN THE SECOND COMMITTEE
BY PAKISTAN ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF 77 AT THE 31ST
RESUMED SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OUTLINES THEIR
VIEW OF THE MANNER IN WHICH THESE ISSUES SHOULD BE
TREATED. IT IS FOR CONSIDERATION HOW THIS INSTITUTIONAL
FRAMEWORK MIGHT AFFECT THE INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPED
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COUNTRIES IN PURSUING THE DIALOGUE AND THE DISCUSSIONS

ON A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER. THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER IN PARTICULAR THE IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT WOULD APPEAR TO BE AN EXTENDED MANDATE FOR UNCTAD AND ATTEMPTS TO ALLOCATE TO THAT BODY AN ECONOMIC ROLE THAT IT HAS NOT HITHERTO ENJOYED.

DEBT

6. THE QUESTION OF DEBT WOULD ALSO DEMAND CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION, PARTICULARLY AT THE TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL, WHICH HAS NOW BEEN POSTPONED UNTIL MARCH 1978. THE ISSUE OF DEBT WAS ONE ON WHICH NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED AT CIEC AND WILL MOST LIKELY FORM A CRUCIAL PART OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES' CASE IN THE CONTINUING DIALOGUE. IT IS FOR CONSIDERATION HOW THESE DISCUSSIONS MIGHT BEST BE HANDLED. UNCTAD ALREADY HAS A CLEAR MANDATE TO DISCUSS THE DEBT ISSUE, BUT COULD CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THIS PROBLEM ALSO BE DISCUSSED ELSEWHERE, SUCH AS IN THE IMF/IBRD DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE? COMMODITIES AND A COMMON FUND

7. THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO CONSIDER THE PROSPECTS FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS ON A COMMON FUND AND HOW THESE MIGHT AFFECT DISCUSSIONS IN THE 32ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY. WITHIN THE OECD, THE HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON COMMODITIES AND THE AD HOC GROUP ON THE COMMON FUND HAVE DEVOTED CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO THE CONTENT AND SUBSTANCE AS WELL AS PROCEDURES OF A COMMON FUND, AND BY THE TIME OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION ON 4TH OCTOBER, THERE WILL BE A GREATER CLARITY AND PRECISION ON THE CONTENT, SUBSTANCE AND PROCEDURES OF A COMMON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FUND. HOWEVER, THE ISSUE IS A HIGHLY COMPLEX ONE AND THE NEGOTIATING TIME AVAILABLE IN THE FOUR-WEEK TIME SPAN IS NOT CONSIDERABLE. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT ONLY LIMITED PROGRESS MIGHT BE MADE AT THE NOVEMBER NEGOTIATING SESSION. NEVERTHELESS, THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES WILL WISH TO PUT FORWARD VIABLE PROPOSALS AND ENTER THE NEGOTIATIONS IN A CONSTRUCTIVE SPIRIT THAT WILL PRESERVE AND ENHANCE THE CREDIBILITY OF THE UNDERTAKINGS ENTERED INTO AT THE CIEC.

TRADE

8. TRADE ISSUES IN THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE ARE, IN GENERAL, FOR NEGOTIATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE MTNS AND PROGRESS DEPENDS THEREFORE IN PART ON DEVELOPMENTS OF THESE MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. ONE OF THE MAIN ISSUES CONCERNS THE GRANTING OF SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIAL

TREATMENT TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES IN THE NON-TARIFF FIELD, IN ADDITION TO IMPROVEMENT OF THE GSP. SOME MOVES HAVE BEEN MADE IN THIS RESPECT IN THE CIEC, BY THE PARTICIPATING INDUSTRIALISED COUNTRIES, THROUGH IDENTIFICATION OF FOUR POSSIBLE AREAS FOR DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT AND OF STEPS FOR IMPROVING THE GSP.

9. THERE ARE, HOWEVER, FUNDAMENTAL ISSUES AT STAKE. FIRST OF ALL, THE REQUEST BY DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES WHICH WOULD GIVE A STATUTORY AND PERMANENT CHARACTER TO DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN THEIR FAVOR IN PRACTICALLY ALL FIELDS AND RULES OF THE GATT (INCLUDING RECIPROCITY). ANOTHER, MORE PRACTICAL, ISSUE RELATES TO THE DIFFERENCES AMONG DEVELOPING

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COUNTRIES AND THE EMERGENCE OF SOME OF THEM AS STRONG COMPETITORS ON INTERNATIONAL MARKETS FOR CERTAIN PRODUCTS. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, THEIR STATUS AS CANDIDATES FOR DIFFERENTIAL OR SPECIAL TREATMENT MIGHT BE QUESTIONED.

10. DISCUSSIONS OF THESE ISSUES IN THE ORGANIZATION (TRADE COMMITTEE) HAVE BEEN LARGELY OF A TECHNICAL NATURE, AND RELATED TO THE MTNS. THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH

TO CONSIDER WHETHER THERE IS NOW, HOWEVER, A NEED FOR A BROADER, POLITICAL AND LONG-TERM APPROACH TO THE ISSUES.

INTERNATIONAL DIRECT INVESTMENT

11. THE COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES OF OECD IS CLOSELY INVOLVED IN INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES. AN INFORMAL CONTACT GROUP WAS ESTABLISHED BY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE COMMITTEE FOR INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT AND MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES TO FOLLOW WORK IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY IN THE UN. THIS GROUP HAS RECENTLY MET. THERE ARE IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THIS WORK THAT THE COMMITTEE MIGHT WISH TO EXAMINE, AND IN PARTICULAR CONSIDER HOW BEST TO HANDLE THEM IN THE GLOBAL CONTEXT. THESE ASPECTS MIGHT INCLUDE:

(A) FURTHER ECONOMIC ANALYSES REGARDING THE TRENDS IN PRIVATE CAPITAL FLOWS FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES;

(B) STUDIES OF NATIONAL POLICIES, LAWS, REGULATIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE PRACTICES SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTING PRIVATE FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

ENERGY

12. THE IEA GOVERNING BOARD WILL MEET AT MINISTERIAL LEVEL ON 5TH AND 6TH OCTOBER, AND RELATIONS WITH NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES WILL FIGURE ON THE AGENDA. ENERGY QUESTIONS FORM AN INTEGRAL PART OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND ESPECIALLY THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO REVERT TO ITS CONSIDERATION OF THIS ITEM UNTIL A LATER MEETING.

AGENDA ITEM 3 - EAST-WEST ECONOMIC RELATIONS

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL HAS CIRCULATED A NOTE,CE(77)6, WHICH DESCRIBES SOME OF THE MACRO-ECONOMIC ISSUES THAT HAVE EMERGED AS A RESULT OF THE ANALYTICAL WORK THE SECRETARIAT HAS UNDERTAKEN DURING THE PAST YEAR. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE WORK ON EAST-WEST RELATIONS HAS PRODUCED INTERESTING STUDIES IN PARTICULAR AREAS WHICH ARE BEING PURSUED IN THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES OF THE ORGANIZATION. IT HAS ALSO, HOWEVER, REVEALED THE MORE GENERAL ISSUE OF INTER-RELATIONSHIPS IN BOTH THE TRADE AND FINANCING FIELDS, AND IN RELATIONS WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION MAY THEREFORE WISH TO FOCUS ON THESE INTER-RELATIONSHIPS. THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ALSO SUGGESTS IN HIS NOTE THE ORIENTATION OF CONTINUING EAST-WEST WORK IN THE ORGANIZATION. THE COMMITTEE MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON THIS. END TEXT.
KATZ

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